

have endured in the people of this region. With their independent spirit and determination they built a strong and lasting community that makes their descendants proud. What is now Hooksett was once part of three other communities during the 18th century. The residents of these towns were dissatisfied with having to travel 17 miles over rugged terrain to the community of Chester to attend church or to vote.

On June 11, 1782, 40 years before the town would be incorporated, the General Court granted a petition that established a ferry at Isle of Hooksett Falls. The town would eventually take its name from this area. These strong-spirited citizens were determined to form their own community and five petitions later to the General Court, Hooksett was finally incorporated July 2, 1822. The first town meeting was at Halls Tavern on September 16, 1822, where the first town officials of Hooksett took the oath to serve the people of the community. The voters elected: the Honorable Richard H. Ayer, selectman and moderator; Samuel head, selectman; Samuel Poor, selectman and Gideon Flanders as town clerk. The residents also elected constables, surveyors of lumber, treasurer, hog reeves and a school committee.

Today, the town of Hooksett prides itself on its quality of life and community spirit, a tradition that has manifested itself throughout the town's history. This town of 9,400 residents boasts not only magnificent surroundings, but a community of friendly, caring neighbors as well.

Mr. President, I congratulate the town of Hooksett on this historic milestone and wish them a happy 175th anniversary celebration. I send them my best wishes for continued success and a prosperous year as they mark their 175th birthday. Happy birthday, Hooksett.●

TRIBUTE TO THE TRUMAN MEDICAL CENTER EAST

● Mr. BOND. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to an extremely important and successful medical facility, Truman Medical Center East—Truman East—Kansas City, MO. On Friday, June 20, 1997, a special dedication will be held in honor of the new Truman East Care Center and ambulatory/emergency services renovation/expansion project.

Truman East has been serving residents of eastern Jackson County since the mid-1800's and continues to meet the challenges of this growing area.

Truman East is primarily a teaching institution for the University of Missouri—Kansas City School of Health Sciences. It contains the department of family and community medicine along with the large family practice residency program which provides primary care. In addition, Truman East manages the Jackson County Health Department in Independence, MO. It has an extensive gerontology fellowship

which provides excellent opportunities for the elderly to enhance the quality of daily life.

One of the biggest improvements to the facility is the replacement of a 212-room long term care residency with a state-of-the-art facility. The older buildings, from 1908 and 1930, have been converted into offices in order to keep the renovations cost effective. Students and health care professionals alike will benefit from these expansions and improvements of the Truman East facility.

It is a great privilege to honor this high caliber medical facility. I know that Truman East will continue to improve and grow for years to come. The State of Missouri is lucky to have such a facility and I want to express my sincere appreciation to everyone who makes Truman East excel.●

CONGRATULATING TRUMBULL HIGH SCHOOL

● Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate a class of students from Trumbull High School in Trumbull, CT, who won an award at the "We the People * * * The Citizen and the Constitution" national finals held in Washington, DC. These students, under the direction of their teacher, Rita Altieri, were recognized for their expertise on unit 6, "Role of Citizen" of the "We the People * * *" curriculum. This award is given to the school achieving the highest cumulative score during the first 2 days of the national finals in each of the six units.

I hope my colleagues will join with me in recognizing these outstanding young Americans who competed against 50 other classes from all across the Nation. They have clearly demonstrated a remarkable understanding of the fundamental ideals and values of American constitutional government.●

IWO JIMA MEMORIAL WEEKLY EVENING PARADE

● Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to bring up to the attention of my colleagues a very special event that occurred recently. On June 10, 1997, I was privileged to participate in an evening parade sponsored by the U.S. Marine Corps at the Iwo Jima Memorial.

As my colleagues know, the Marine Corps hosts these parades weekly during the summer for local residents, tourists, and supporters of the Armed Forces. However, this parade was particularly special for those of us who treasure our Nation's military history and traditions.

The parade was attended by the Secretary of the Navy, the Commandant of the Marine Corps, other distinguished leaders, and a collection of Iwo Jima survivors. Amidst great anticipation, the Secretary seized this unique forum to announce that the latest WASP Class amphibious warship, the LHD-7, would be named the "USS. IWO JIMA."

As the sponsor of previous legislation to provide this designation for the LHD-7, I was both pleased and privileged to participate in this very special event. Indeed, as the Sun slowly set over Arlington cemetery, the Iwo Jima Memorial was aglow against the backdrop of the Washington skyline. And those veterans of Iwo Jima who graced us with their presence seemed transformed once again into the same youthful heroes who fought so nobly in defense of freedom 52 years ago. It was a very, very special night.

Mr. President, for the benefit of my colleagues who were not able to attend last week's parade, I would like to take this opportunity to insert into the RECORD the statements delivered by the Secretary of the Navy and myself in commemoration of the event. While it is difficult to capture in mere words the essence of that wonderful evening, it is my hope that the American people will be able to review these remarks and, perhaps, gain a better appreciation of the U.S. Marine Corps, its history, and tradition. I know that I was enriched by the experience, and I want to personally thank Gen. Chuck Krulak and America's Corps of Marines for the honor of participating in this unforgettable event.

I ask that the speeches delivered at the Iwo Jima Memorial on June 10, 1997, by Secretary of Navy John Dalton and myself be printed in the RECORD.

The material follows:

REMARKS OF SENATOR BOB SMITH—JUNE 10, 1997

Thank you very much General Krulak. Secretary Dalton, Admiral Johnson, my host General West, fellow veterans, particularly veterans of Iwo Jima that are with us tonight, members of the Armed Services, ladies and gentlemen.

Tonight, we gather against the backdrop of this wonderful shrine, to commemorate the long and distinguished history of our United States Marine Corps. We also celebrate the designation of the latest WASP-Class Amphibious Assault ship the "USS Iwo Jima."

It is a very special evening, and I am deeply honored to participate in these activities.

In the annals of military history, no battle conjures up more powerful or compelling images than Iwo Jima. That ferocious battle, to capture four miles of strategic island territory, is forever a part of our national character. And it will forever define our United States Marine Corps.

Between February 19th and March 26th, 1945, 19,000 Americans were wounded and 7,000 were killed in the campaign to capture Iwo Jima. This was no walk through the park. This was lengthy, brutal, hand to hand, close quarters combat.

There were no stealth fighters, satellites or precision guided munitions at Iwo Jima. No attack helicopters, infrared sensors or tomahawk cruise missiles, either. Our secret weapon was the tenacity and unbridled patriotism of 80,000 United States Marines.

There was nothing high tech about these leathernecks. They weren't pretty and they weren't glamorous. But those Marines gave everything they had. They provided exactly what technology couldn't. Guts. Courage. Valor. Discipline. Unparalleled heroism.

As Admiral Chester Nimitz concluded after the battle, and I quote, "among the Americans who served on Iwo Island, uncommon valor was a common virtue."